

9/8/69

Airtel

1 - Mr. McDonough

104

To: SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

REC 82 From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

5819

MURKIN

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to Legat, Ottawa dated 8/28/69, received 9/5/69, at the Bureau.

It is noted that the RCMP was only instrumental in the identification and location of the fugitive subject in this matter and was not concerned with the evidentiary or prosecutive aspects.

You should contact appropriate Tennessee State authorities and advise them of the contents of this letter and suggest that they may desire to communicate directly with the RCMP concerning the inquiries set forth in the letter as they may pertain to Tennessee State interests. The Tennessee State authorities should be requested to furnish you a copy of any reply they may make to the RCMP.

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COMM-FBI

If Tennessee State authorities request that their reply be forwarded to the RCMP by the Bureau in light of the fact that the RCMP had made its inquiries through the Bureau, there is no objection to doing so. But the Tennessee State authorities should furnish the reply in writing for forwarding to the RCMP.

The Bureau is contacting the Civil Rights Division relative to this matter and you will be advised of results.

Enclosure

EJM:cs

(4)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO...

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

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MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE:

RCMP by letter to Legat, Ottawa advises that a national magazine will be publishing articles on the RCMP's work and one of the subjects to be covered is the commendations given to two members of the RCMP who participated in the James Earl Ray investigation. RCMP requests to be advised of the status of the Ray case prosecution including any appeal action as they would not want to release information which would affect the case.

Since RCMP was only involved in the fugitive aspects it is not felt that release of information by them of their role and commendation given their men would affect prosecution or evidentiary aspects; however, this matter is being referred to appropriate Tennessee State authorities and the Civil Rights Division for their consideration. RCMP requests prompt reply.

As a matter of cooperation, if the Tennessee State authorities request that we forward their reply to the RCMP, it is not felt that we should object since the RCMP was of invaluable assistance in locating the subject and their inquiry was addressed to our Legal Attache in Ottawa. Tennessee State authorities will be requested to furnish their reply in writing for forwarding to RCMP.

Since Department has not yet dismissed Federal process and has requested that we still continue to run out any subsequent information reported, views of the Civil Rights Division will be obtained on Federal interests and results will be confirmed in writing and furnished to RCMP.